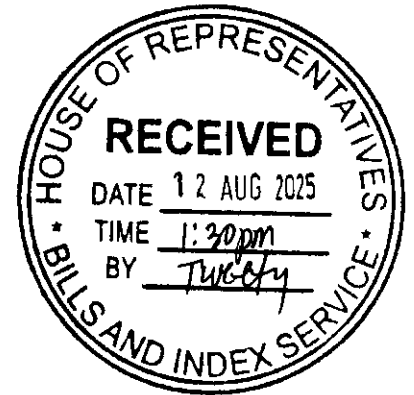


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO 3562



Introduced by Rep. Dante S. Garcia and Rep. Kenneth Paolo Tereng

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Malnutrition continues to plague young Filipino children in the country. In the January to October 2021 Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) data, death caused by malnutrition increased by almost forty percent (40%), the highest on record, with 4,844 Filipinos died of malnutrition. Local economists believe that this plight reflected the government's failure to respond to the health and nutrition needs of Filipinos, which aggravated during the time of the Covid 19 pandemic. Nearly half of all deaths in children under age 5 are attributable to undernutrition, which puts children at greater risk of dying from common infections. Its lack of institutional support for a stable and responsive nutrition program has caused this observed increase in deaths.

The 2019 Food and Nutrition Research Institute's National Nutrition Survey (FNRI-NNS) reported that twenty-nine percent (29%) of Filipino children aged 5 and under, or one of every three children, had stunted growth, nineteen percent (19%) were underweighted, while six percent (6%) of children under age 5 were identified as wasted because of starvation and disease. The 2021 World Bank study sustained the report that the Philippines is suffering from a "silent pandemic", referring to childhood stunting because of undernutrition. Across the East Asia and Pacific region, the Philippines had the fifth highest prevalence of stunting, and was in the top 10 on the global scale, proving that it is indeed a "very high" public health significance.

The persistence of very high levels of childhood undernutrition and malnutrition pose a high threat to the country's human and economic potential. Nevertheless, the passage of an enabling legislation that aims to provide a continuous investment in nutrition, and basic health education to address the various problem of malnutrition in the country should be resolved.

This is where the Barangay Integrated Development Approach to Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) comes in. It is an active research initiative by the BIDANI network group composed of participating state universities and colleges (SUCs), the National Nutrition Council and the local government units (LGUs) which aims to address nutritional gaps among the poor by promoting, protecting, and implementing sound food and nutrition concepts.

This measure seeks to establish and institutionalize the BIDANI network program as a vanguard of research in development which aims to promote nutrition-in-development for the general well-being of the rural poor through a local participative and integrated management system spearheaded by the participating State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) through its extension programs.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



DANTE S. GARCIA
2nd District, La Union



KENNETH PAOLO TERENG
KM Ngayon Na Party-list

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
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HOUSE BILL NO 3562

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BARANGAY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
APPROACH FOR NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT OF THE RURAL POOR
AS A LINKAGE PROGRAM FOR ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
COLLEGES AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Act".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to recognize nutrition as a basic human right that shall be promoted as a public good and a public concern that can be satisfactory achieved through multi-sectoral support and cooperation. To this end, the State shall vigorously work towards the provision of the nutritional needs of the poor and vulnerable especially in the rural areas, and give utmost support to programs and projects that are responsive to the health needs of the Filipino people.

Sec. 3. Objectives. - This Act shall have the following objectives:
(a) To encourage the cooperation and participation of academic institutions and local government units (LGUs) in promoting the nutritional well-being of the people;

(b) To develop among state universities and colleges (SUCS), and community colleges an effective research-action network program that will improve the nutrition and general well-being of the rural poor; and

(c) To improve the nutritional well-being of the poor in the rural areas in order to enhance their health and productivity.

Sec. 4. The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement Program. - The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANT) is established as a comprehensive nutrition in-development action research program of the state universities and colleges (SUCs) and community colleges in support of the health and nutrition program of the national government and local government units (LGUs) whose target beneficiaries are the rural poor.

It is a comprehensive model for building the capacity of LGUs to integrate nutrition concerns in countryside development programs that supports the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) to combat malnutrition, food and nutrition insecurity, social deprivation, and poverty alleviation.

Sec. 5. Program Goals. - The BIDANI Program shall promote nutrition-in-development through community and other stakeholders' participation in an integrated management system facilitated by SUCs. The Program shall:

(a) Require all SUCs and community colleges to assist the government in achieving the nutrition targets of the PPAN;

(b) Engage the SUCs and community colleges in the conduct of training and capacity-building activities for all BIDANI stakeholders on the BIDANI strategies and innovative

practices to ensure that in-planning nutrition shall be integrated in all areas of local governance;

(c) Promote the best nutrition-in-development practices of successful LGUs through the participation of local nutrition management teams; and

(d) Build partnership among SUCs, community colleges and other stakeholders to support the citizenry towards self-help and self-reliance; encourage citizen action through the involvement of various stakeholders; and coordinate with government organizations (GOs), nongovernment organizations (NGOs), private organization (POs) and other private sector groups in linking the community with existing resources.

Sec. 6. BIDANI Structural/Organizational Linkages. - The BIDANI partners and stakeholders shall work at different levels, as follows:

(a) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) - Community Colleges' Partnership with SUCs shall be formalized through an execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the University of the Philippines-Los Baños (UPLB), being the national coordinator of the BIDANI Program, represented by its Chancellor, and the President of the concerned SUCs or community colleges. Upon approval of the MOA, the BIDANI Program shall be operationalized under the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE) of the partner SUC or community college. A BIDANI SUC or community college will then choose and coordinate with its partner LGU;

(b) City or Municipal Local Government Units - The implementation of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall commence upon the approval by the city or municipality of the nutrition plans formulated by the SUC concerned through a MOA or city/municipality resolution. Each city or municipality shall create a City/Municipal Organizational Machinery, composed of heads and representatives of different city/municipal line agencies who shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and replication of the BIDANI strategy in the locality;

(c) Barangay Units - The realization of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall be accomplished at the barangay level. The membership of each Barangay Development Council (BDC) shall be expanded and the BDC shall hereinafter be called the Program Planning and Implementing Committee. The Committee shall be composed of representatives from the Sangguniang Barangay, BDC, the various purok in the barangay and other community leaders who shall be trained on the BIDANI strategy to ensure that the processes for planning and management of development programs, projects and activities will be participative and responsive to the needs of the residents of the barangay; and

(d) Other Stakeholders - The participation and inputs of the NGOs, POs, other government agencies and offices, shall be sought in the formulation of plans by the members of the barangay.

Sec. 7. BIDANI Innovative Strategies. - To facilitate the local implementation of the BIDANI, the Program shall be implemented using the following innovative strategies:

(a) Formulation of the Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP) - Upon approval of this Act, each barangay shall formulate its BIDP which shall include the barangay's plans and

programs relative to nutrition, and which plans shall be integrated to the municipal development plan;

(b) Updating of the Existing Barangay Management Information system (BMIS) - As part of its research activities, the concerned SUC or community college shall continue to update its' existing people-based information system which shall focus on the identification of the needs of the barangay through efficient and effective data collection. The data shall be the basis for program planning, management and implementation of various projects and activities in the barangay; and

(c) Implementation of Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA) - The National Nutrition Council (NNC), and participating SUCs and community colleges shall utilize the life cycle approach in the formulation of food production policies and programs, and promote market-driven livelihood activities among the households to prevent malnutrition among preschool children and nutritionally-at-risk families.

Sec. 8. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program shall be included in the budget of the participating SUCs or community college, in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs shall provide funding to the participating community colleges for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program. Participating SUCs and community colleges may also receive grants, donations, and other forms of financial support from foreign and local persons, institutions, and governments for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program. In addition, the income generated by participating SUCs or community colleges may also be used to augment the fund for the BIDANI Linkage Program.

Sec. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the UPLB-BIDANI shall, in coordination with the NNC and the participating SUCs and community colleges, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

Sec. 10. Separability Clause. - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,